

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

December 12, 2006

OK

TO: Internal File

THRU: Wayne Western, Team Lead *W/W*

FROM: James D. Smith, Environmental Scientist I *JS 01/12/07*

RE: Phase I Bond Release for Reclaimed Areas, PacifiCorp, Deer Creek Mine, C/015/0018, Task ID #2674

SUMMARY:

PacifiCorp is applying for Phase I bond release on approximately 0.60 acres at the Deer Creek Mine 9th East Breakout site. The area, in the Right Fork of Grimes Wash, is in the SE/4SW/4, Section 22, T. 17 S., R. 7 E. No reduction of bond is being requested.

Two portals at this site were developed in the 1920's. Three additional portals were added in June 1977 for ventilation. All portals and related access were pre-SMCRA. The 9th East breakouts were used as ventilation intakes from 1977 until 1990, when they were permanently sealed.

The reclamation is described in Deer Creek Mine MRP, Volume 2, R645-301-500 Engineering Appendix R645-301-500-B (9th East Grimes Wash Portals). Final reclamation was started in the fall of 1999 and completed in December 1999. Concrete collars were removed from the 1977 portals, and all portals were backfilled. Silt fence, straw bales, ditches, berms, and a culvert were removed. There were no other sediment control structures. The access road was removed down to the Wilberg fan. (The fan and access road below the fan are in an ASCA in the Cottonwood/Wilberg Mine disturbed area.) After the site was backfilled and graded, it was fertilized, mulched, and seeded. The Reclamation Plan in the current MRP was followed.

Permittee's Action	Dated	DOGM's Action	Dated
Original submittal	10/17/2006	Assigned Task # 2674	
		Tech Memo - Hydrology	12/12/2006

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

RECLAMATION PLAN

HYDROLOGIC INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.14, 784.29, 817.41, 817.42, 817.43, 817.45, 817.49, 817.56, 817.57; R645-301-512, -301-513, -301-514, -301-515, -301-532, -301-533, -301-542, -301-723, -301-724, -301-725, -301-726, -301-728, -301-729, -301-731, -301-733, -301-742, -301-743, -301-750, -301-751, -301-760, -301-761.

Analysis:

Hydrologic Reclamation Plan

The reclamation is described in Deer Creek Mine MRP, Volume 2, R645-301-500 Engineering Appendix R645-301-500-B (9th East Grimes Wash Portals): hydrology is described in section 700 Hydrology of this appendix. The plan indicates surface roughening and vegetation are the primary reclamation sediment control methods. There has been no hydrologic monitoring at the 9th East Breakout, although Grimes Wash is monitored at GWR-01 above and GWR-03 below the Cottonwood/Wilberg Mine site.

The portals were dry during mine operation. Strata dip approximately 2 degrees to the NW, and there should be no post-mining gravity discharge.

Phase I reclamation was completed in December 1999. Straw bales, silt fences, ditches, berms, and a culvert were removed. These were the only sediment control structures at the site. The access road was reclaimed down to the Wilberg fan. (The fan and fan access road are in an ASCA in the Cottonwood/Wilberg Mine disturbed area. Silt fence and a retention basin provide sediment control for this ASCA.) After the 9th East Portal site was backfilled and graded, it was fertilized, mulched, and seeded. The Reclamation Plan in the current MRP was followed.

Findings:

Hydrologic Reclamation Information is sufficient to meet the requirements of the R645 Rules.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Phase I bond release should be approved.